

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Washington, D.C. 20460

NOV - 1 2019

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Nick Surgey Muck Rock Dept MR 44173 411 A Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02144

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request Number EPA-HQ-2018-000060

Dear Mr. Surgey:

This letter is in reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on October 3, 2017, in which you requested the following records in the possession of EPA Ethics Office staff:

- 1. all electronic records concerning any EPA political appointee (including but not limited to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt) participating with any external organization/corporation (or individual person), including but not limited to invitations to speak at meetings, fundraising events, galas and other events; and
- 2. all electronic records concerning any EPA political appointee (including but not limited to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt) travel.

The information that you are seeking is publicly available on EPA's website at foiaonline.gov. The previously-released records can be found by entering "EPA-HQ-2018-002150" and "EPA-HQ-2018-004426" into the search bar. In response to those two requests also submitted by you, the Agency withheld 23 records in full and 358 records in part under FOIA Exemption 6, Exemption 7(A), and Exemption 5's deliberative process attorney-client and attorney work product privileges. 5 U.S.C. §§ 552(b)(5), (6), and 7(A).

This letter officially concludes our response to your request. If you would like to appeal this response, you may do so by e-mail at hq.foia@epa.gov, or by mail to the National Freedom of Information Office, U.S. EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (2822T), Washington, DC 20460 (U.S. Postal Service Only). Only items mailed through the United States Postal Service may be delivered to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. If you are submitting your appeal via hand delivery, courier service, or overnight delivery, you must address your correspondence to 1301 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 6416J, Washington, DC 20001. Your appeal must be made in writing, and it must be received no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. The Agency will not consider appeals received after the 90 calendar day limit. Appeals received after 5:00 pm EST will be considered received the next business day. The appeal letter

should include the FOIA tracking number listed above. For timely handling, the subject line of your email, the appeal letter, and its envelope, if applicable, should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Additionally, you may seek resolution services from EPA's FOIA Public Liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or (202) 566-1667, or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways: by mail, Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8610 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001; e-mail, ogis@nara.gov; telephone, (202) 741-5770 or (877) 684-6448; and facsimile, (202) 741-5769.

If you have any questions concerning this response, please contact Shannon Griffo at (202) 564-7061, or griffo.shannon@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Justina Fugh

Director, Ethics Office

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